

EXTENSION OF VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, DRIVER LICENSES, AND STATE IDENTIFICATION CARDS

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Senate Bill 876 (S-1) as referred to second House committee
Senate Bill 877 (S-1) as referred to second House committee
Senate Bill 878 (S-1) as referred to second House committee
Sponsor: Sen. Wayne Schmidt
1st House Committee: Transportation
2nd House Committee: Ways and Means
Senate Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure
Complete to 6-16-20

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bills 876, 877, and 878 would respectively amend the Michigan Vehicle Code, the State Personal Identification Card Act (1972 PA 222), and the Enhanced Driver License and Enhanced Official State Personal Identification Card Act to extend the validity of certain expiring vehicle registrations, driver licenses, and ID cards issued under those acts. Generally, the bills would provide for driver licenses and ID cards that expired between February 1, 2020, and May 31, 2020, to be considered valid until June 30, 2020. However, the bills also provide for other extensions with different time frames, as described below.

Senate Bill 876 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to provide that an operator's license or chauffeur's license that expired between February 1, 2020, and May 31, 2020, is valid until June 30, 2020.

The bill would also provide for the following extension periods:

Licenses, certifications, endorsements

- A commercial driver license that expires between March 1, 2020, and June 29, 2020, would be valid until June 30, 2020.
- Medical certification for license holders with a group designation required under 49 CFR 391.45 that expires between March 1, 2020, and June 29, 2020, would be valid until June 30, 2020.
- Hazardous material endorsements that expire between March 1, 2020, and July 31, 2020, would be valid for an additional 180 days beyond their original expiration date. A security threat assessment that is valid until on or after March 1, 2020, would be valid until the exhaustion of the extension. However, an individual with a 180-day endorsement extension under this provision would have to initiate a security threat assessment with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at least 60 days before the expiration of that extension.
- The above provisions would not affect the Secretary of State's authority to revoke or suspend a license or group designation or endorsement under the act.

Registrations

- A registration issued to a motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, when driven or moved on a street or highway, that expires between February 1, 2020, and May 31, 2020, would be valid until June 30, 2020.
- A registration issued to vehicle described above that is used for commercial purposes that expires between March 1, 2020, and June 29, 2020, would be valid until June 30, 2020.
- A commercial vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registration that was issued under the International Registration Plan and that expires between March 1, 2020, and June 29, 2020, would be valid until June 30, 2020.
- A registration for a motorcycle that expires between February 1, 2020, and May 31, 2020, would be valid until June 30, 2020.

A person operating a vehicle with a registration expiring as described above would not be in violation of the provisions of the code that require a vehicle to be registered when operated on a street or highway if the registration was renewed on or before the applicable extension date described above.

Late fees could not be assessed on vehicles whose registrations expired as described above but were renewed before the applicable extension date.

MCL 257.216 et seq.

Senate Bill 877 would amend the Official State Personal Identification Card Act (1972 PA 222) to provide that official state personal ID cards that expired between February 1, 2020, and May 31, 2020, are considered valid until June 30, 2020. The Secretary of State would have to process an application to renew such a card as a renewal of an existing card if the application was received before June 30, 2020.

MCL 28.292

Senate Bill 878 would amend the Enhanced Driver License and Enhanced Official State Personal Identification Card Act to provide that enhanced driver licenses and enhanced state ID cards that expired between February 1, 2020, and May 31, 2020, are considered valid until June 30, 2020. The Secretary of State would have to process an application to renew such a card as a renewal of an existing card if the application was received before June 30, 2020, and could not charge a late renewal fee for such a card that was renewed before June 30, 2020.

MCL 28.304 and 28.306

[**Note:** Some of the bills' provisions require a renewal before the applicable date (e.g., June 30), while others require a renewal "on or before" that date. It might thus seem unclear whether something that is valid "until" June 30 is actually valid on June 30 itself.]

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bills would result in a marginal decrease in fee revenue for the Department of State.

The bills would allow the Secretary of State (SOS) to postpone the collection of fee revenue from renewals of certain driver licenses, official state personal identification cards, and enhanced driver license and enhanced official state personal identification cards. The collection of renewal fees for operator's and chauffer's licenses during the period between February 1 and May 31 would be deferred and expected to begin being collected again on or after June 1, resulting in no significant change in revenues.

However, the bills would likely result in a small decrease in fee revenue to the extent that they waive the collection of additional late fee revenue that would have otherwise been collected under previous law and not related to the closures of SOS branch offices.

Renewal and late fee revenue is allocated to the state's general fund, counties and municipalities, the Traffic Law Enforcement and Safety Fund, the Transportation Economic Development Fund, and the Enhanced Driver License and Enhanced Official State Personal Identification Card Fund.

POSITIONS:

The Department of State indicated a neutral position on the bills. (6-16-20)

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.